

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday ~ November 10, 2009
Menominee County Courthouse - Courtroom B
Menominee, MI 49858

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. (CST) by Chairman Gary Eichhorn

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with the following in attendance:

Present: Commissioners Furlong, Anderson, Peterson & Eichhorn

Excused: Commissioner Lang

Public Comment: None

Department Head Reports/Comments: Pat Cheski, Library Director – Address Agenda Item 4b (County Library – It appears that Mr. Peterson is questioning a Library Board decision. I can not speak for the library board and therefore I can not discuss whatever questions, or answer any questions you have regarding that decision. I'd suggest that you submit something in writing and I'd be happy to take it to the library board and request it be added to the agenda. Eichhorn, I guess there were a lot of questions wondering why with the budget carry over that you have Cheski, No one questioned anything during the entire budget process I did not hear from any commissioner in writing verbally or in person. I did not hear from the county administrator no one questioned or explained anything about our budget during the entire process and if there were any questions then or now they need to be addressed with the library board. I can not speak for the library board. Sheriff Marks – Put in a request for maintenance, there is a hardwood tree out in front of the jail that is dead, a rather large tree I think our concern now is if we get a storm out of the North it could knock this tree on to the jail, which could cause damage to the control room or the structure of the jail. Second issue is the intercom phone system in the jail. In the spring it was approved to put out to bid. That project was never put out to bid. I'd like to re-address this and get the specs out for a bid.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Comm. Furlong, seconded by Comm. Anderson to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 4-0

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes: Moved by Comm. Anderson, seconded by Comm. Peterson to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried, 4-0

Presentations: Jan Stage: Associated Financial Group-the 2010 health insurance renewal rate break down is handed to the commissioners. This reflects a 3% increase to what we currently pay. To offer some perspective on that medical trend, the average rate of increase right now is about 10-12%. I think a big part of this renewal rate has to do with the new

renewal calculation being used by blue cross blue shield, it is going from a pool rate to a rate based on your claims. Next year's budget based on the trend, should be about a 10-12% increase. Stephen Eagle-Cooper Office Equipment – Currently you have a copier that is leased with banc of America for that lease expired Oct. 2nd which is costing you 246.00/month. What we'd like to do is purchase that copier from the leasing company and rent it to the County for an additional 32 months for 146.00 per month saving the county 100.00/month. Peterson – that copier is in good shape, I assume? Yes the copier is in great shape, plus we just go it up and running with scan and email and it's working good. It took a lot of work to get it there; we'd like to keep it if we could. Eichhorn, You're on the agenda just down the line for it

Agenda Items:

1. Personnel Items:

- a. Temporary Pay increase of Carol Johnson ~ Acting County Clerk – Anderson, I make a recommendation we move it forward. Furlong, It was discussed at the personnel committee meeting and we agreed at that meeting to move it to the board.
- b. Request one time payment for Administrative Assistant additional duties – Furlong, I would like to move it forward. I think Sherry has performed outstandingly under the circumstances. She's done everything we've asked her to do, She has gone above and beyond the call of duty, I think it's a small price to pay for what she's done. Peterson, Should this reviewed by the new administrator coming on board? Anderson, we can discuss it at the meeting. Eichhorn, We can move it forward, wait for Mike to come on and discuss it and act on it at the meeting. Peterson, I think he should be involved.
- c. Request for Family Medical Leave ~ Deputy Carl Powell – Anderson, recommends to move it forward, Furlong agrees.
- d. Purchase of Retirement years of service ~ Mike Holmes – Furlong, once again this was discussed at a personnel committee meeting, there is no cost to the county, I recommend we move it to the board. Anderson, do you know if he's fully invested? Mike Holmes answers, Yes, I am fully invested.
- e. Sheriff to hire a Part Time Road Patrol Officer ~ opening available – Furlong, again, we discussed this at the personnel committee meeting, I recommend we move it forward. Anderson, I'd like to table that until we can get an administrator on board. I think some of these things are going to be loading us up quite a bit here. Peterson, I think it should be reviewed by the administrator so he's aware of it.
- f. Sheriff request status change of employee, Carol Rye-Lindberg from “temporary” part time to “regular” part time – Anderson, I recommend we move this forward. All agree.
- g. Corrections Officer ~ Job Classification-Position Title – Status Change – Anderson, would like to see this tabled until the following meeting of the whole. Sheriff, currently this employee is listed as a Secretary. This was based on when a former sheriff that had a personal secretary which was a non-union position. Since then this position has become a union position. The position

has changed, but the title didn't. Anderson, move it forward and discuss it at the meeting.

- h. Sheriff to hire full time Animal Control Officer – retirement of Ned Hauser – Furlong, this was discussed at the personnel committee also, and we recommended to forward to the board. It is within his budget, it's just replacing who is retired. I think the sooner we replace an animal officer the better. Peterson, is there something involved in terms of the City of Menominee, working in conjunction with them? I've read through this, they're requesting or possibly interested in a part time and maybe this can be incorporated on a county level. Sheriff Marks, Yes, sir. I've met with the animal shelter board; it's a very complex issue. Right now in our county, Ned Hauser is the last animal control officer in Menominee County. The city of Stephenson revoked their ordinance, so we cover that. We also assist the reservation (Hannahville) when requested. The city of Menominee does not have an animal control officer at this time and we have discussed the possibility of updating our county animal control ordinance. We are in conjunction with the cities and we could possibly enter into some type of contract to fill that need in the cities as well. The training has become more and more expensive; equipment is more expensive. The state, with budget cuts is pushing more responsibilities to the county. Kennel inspections, Stable inspections etc. Things that take specific training. I would like to get a committee together with the animal shelter, the city and the commissioners. Our ordinance is very outdated as compared to Delta County and the City of Menominee. It needs to be updated no matter what we do. This is an issue I think we need to visit. We could make changes to bring in more revenue to the county. Peterson, has it been a problem in our county? Sheriff, it has been a problem in the past. Anderson, I like to make a recommendation we move it forward so we can discuss it at the board level. I think we should discuss not only that item, but item (A) under Misc. Items.

2. **Building and Grounds/ Parks Items:** Furlong, Did the by-laws ever get forwarded to Dan Hass' office? Smith, Yes. Furlong, did we ever get an answer back from him yet? Anderson, nothing yet. Peterson, can we possibly check, cause there's a park and rec. meeting tomorrow at 6:00, just in case he has reviewed it, we can discuss it at that meeting.

3. **Miscellaneous Items:**

- a. Sheriff Marks - Suggests forming a committee to update the Menominee County Animal Control Ordinance. Anderson, I'd like to move that forward along with the above item. Furlong, I think what the sheriff is looking for is some guidance from the board as far as getting the committee together to discuss the feasibility of creating a countywide animal control ordinance which basically captures revenues from citations back to the county instead of going to the state.
- b. Courthouse and Courtroom Security issues – Sheriff Marks: Anderson, I think we

- ought to move it forward and discuss it at the board meeting.
- c. Resolution 09-17 ~ Honoring Mike Jasper – Furlong, forward to the board for approval.
 - d. Resolution 09-18 ~ Honoring Debra Pitts – Furlong, forward to the board for approval.

4. Finance Items:

- a. Re-monumentation Grant Administrator ~ Commissioner appointment – Eichhorn, I just wonder if we're going to have an administrator hired and we can change it to have the administrator taking care of them. Anderson, I think we should forward it to the board meeting and discuss it at the board meeting.
- b. County Library ~ Reduction of Operating Hours/Elimination of P.T. Position – Eichhorn, I think that will need to be further discussed. We can discuss it at the board meeting if we get more information. Anderson recommends to move it forward.
- c. Commissioner Per Diems/Expenses: Furlong recommends to move it to the board for approval.
- d. Miscellaneous Bills – Furlong, I recommend we pay our bills.

Other Items Members may wish to present: Furlong, the Filoramo bill that we got, dated 10/29/09. The first part is regarding the lawsuit, the second part of the bill it's obvious that it work for the county board, but at the top it says Reference: Jason Lauzer VS Menominee County Board. Is there any way he clarify the billing so that the county board work is billed for the county board and the lawsuit is billed for the lawsuit. Anderson, he was supposed to straighten it all out.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Moved by Comm. Furlong, supported by Comm. Anderson to adjourn this meeting at 6:26 pm. Motion carried, 4-0.